Production of the Drugs Needed for Major Killer Diseases

524. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(b) what steps are taken to have a up the production and to reduce the cost of drugs needed to fight the major killers/communicable diseases and ailments associated with malnutrition and poverty; and

(b) what steps are taken to have a constant and adequate supply of the effective anti-leprosy medicines and anti-T.B. drugs?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) In order to boost up the production of pharmaceuticals, the Ministry of industry, Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals have taken the following steps:—

(i) 94 Bulk Drugs|Drug intermediates have been de-licensed.

(ii) Government policies on foreign collaborations have been liberalised.

The above steps, which would stimulate drug production could result in reduction of the drug prices.

(b) Under the National Leprosy Eradication Programme and the T.B. Control Programme, sizeable quantities of drugs are supplied to the centres run by the States/Union Territories as well as to clinics run by voluntary bodies for treatment under these Programmes. Adequate buffer stocks are also being built in advance to make timely supplies without delay.

Illiteracy in Orissa

525. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that percentage of illiteracy in Orissa is inoressing.

(b) whether it is a fact that some legislators of Orissa have demanded facilities for the proper education of children belonging to backward classes;

(c) if so, what are the reasons for rise in illiteracy in the State and the steps taken for providing facilities for proper education?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) The percentage of illiteracy in Orissa has decreased from 73.82 per cent 1971 to 65.77 per cent in 1981.

(b) Central Government is not aware of such demand.

(c) Following projects/schemes are being implemented in the State of Orissa to combat the problem of illiteracy in the State;

(i) 19 Rural Functional Literacy Projects with 5700 Adult Education Centres have been sanctioned to the Government of Orissa.

(ii) The State Government have sanctioned 13 project with 100 Adult Education Centres under the State Adult Education Programme.

(iii) Uttar the scheme of voluntary agencies working in the field of Adult Education, 51 voluntary agencies have been sanctioned 1855 Adult Education Centres.

(iv) Universities of Sambalpur. Utkal and Berhampur are running 2214 Adult Education Centres with the help of 127 colleges.

(v) Under the centrally sponsored scheme of non-formal education, special assistance is also provided for elementary age group children on a 50:50 sharing basis for those children who are unable to attend school due to poverty and other socio-economic reasons Since girls enrolment is lagging behind that of boys 90 per cent assistance is given to open Non-formal Education Centre